Amdt. Dated January 26, 2004

Reply to Office action mailed October 7, 2003

## Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (original): A system for providing call accounting services, the system comprising:

- a first network collecting and encrypting call parameter information; and
- a second network receiving, decrypting, and processing the call parameter information for generating a usage profile;

wherein the call parameter information is transmitted from the first network to the second network over a public computer network.

Claim 2 (original): The system of claim 1, wherein the first network is an enterprise network.

Claim 3 (original): The system of claim 1, wherein the first network includes: a private branch exchange unit for generating the call parameter information; a storage device for storing the call parameter information; and an encrypter for encrypting the call parameter information.

Claim 4 (original): The system of claim 1, wherein the second network is a service provider network.

Claim 5 (original): The system of claim 1, wherein the public computer network is a public internet.

Claim 6 (original): The system of claim 1, wherein the encrypted call parameter information is transmitted via electronic mail.

Claim 7 (original): The system of claim 1, wherein the usage profile includes call cost information.

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Claim 8 (original): An intelligent ticket collector comprising:

an input for receiving call parameter information;

an encrypter for encrypting the call parameter information; and

an output for transmitting to a call accounting service provider the encrypted call parameter information via public computer network, wherein the call accounting service provider receives, decrypts, and processes the call parameter information for generating a usage profile.

Claim 9 (original): The intelligent ticket collector of claim 8, wherein the public computer network is a public internet.

Claim 10 (original): The intelligent ticket collector of claim 8, wherein the encrypted call parameter information is transmitted via electronic mail.

Claim 11 (original): The intelligent ticket collector of claim 8, wherein the usage profile includes call cost information.

Claim 12 (original): A method for providing call accounting services for an enterprise, the method comprising the steps of:

retrieving call parameter information from a storage location; encrypting the retrieved call parameter information; and transmitting to a call accounting service provider the encrypted call parameter information via a public computer network, wherein the call accounting service provider receives, decrypts, and processes the call parameter information for generating a usage profile.

Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 12, wherein the public computer network is a public internet.

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Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 12, wherein the encrypted call parameter information is transmitted via electronic mail.

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 12, wherein the usage profile includes call cost information.

Claim 16 (new): A system for providing call accounting services, the system comprising: a call accounting application service provider network wherein the call accounting application service provider network receives and decrypts call parameter information and derives from the decrypted call parameter information a usage profile; and

an enterprise network comprising:

a private branch exchange unit for generating the call parameter information;

a storage device for storing the call parameter information generated by the private branch exchange; and

an intelligent ticket collector for polling stored call parameter information within the enterprise network, the intelligent ticket collector comprising:

an input for receiving the polled call parameter information; an encrypter for encrypting the received call parameter information;

an output for transmitting to the call accounting application service provider network the encrypted call parameter information via a data network.

Claim 17 (new): The system of claim 16 wherein the enterprise network further comprises a network access server for receiving the encrypted call parameter information transmitted from the intelligent ticket collector and wherein the encrypted call parameter information is transmitted to the call accounting application service provider network from the network assess server via the data network.

a data transfer protocol stack; and

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Claim 18 (new): The system of claim 16 wherein the enterprise network transmits the encrypted call parameter information to the call accounting application service provider network as electronic mail.

Claim 19 (new): The system of claim 16 wherein the storage device of the enterprise network is a buffer in direct communication with the public branch exchange.

Claim 20 (new): The system of claim 16 wherein the enterprise network further comprises a switching node for generating call information for calls managed by the switching node, wherein the switching node includes one or more internal buffers for storing the call parameter information generated by the switching node.

Claim 21 (new): A system for providing call accounting services, the system comprising: a call accounting application service provider network wherein the call accounting application service provider network receives and decrypts call parameter information and derives from the decrypted call parameter information a usage profile; and

an enterprise network comprising:

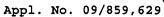
a private branch exchange unit for generating the call parameter information; a buffer box for storing the call parameter information generated by the private branch exchange; and

a switching node comprising:

one or more internal buffers; and

an intelligent ticket collector for polling the buffer box and the one or more internal buffers for the stored call parameter information, the intelligent ticket collector comprising:

an input for receiving the polled call parameter information; an encrypter for encrypting the received call parameter information; a data transfer protocol stack; and



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an output for transmitting to the call accounting application service provider network the encrypted call parameter information via a data network.

Claim 22 (new): The system of claim 21 wherein the enterprise network further comprises a network access server for receiving the encrypted call parameter information transmitted from the intelligent ticket collector and wherein the encrypted call parameter information is transmitted to the call accounting application service provider network from the network assess server via the data network.

Claim 23 (new): The system of claim 21 wherein the enterprise network transmits the encrypted call parameter information to the call accounting application service provider network as electronic mail.

Claim 24 (new): A method for providing call accounting services for an enterprise, the method comprising the steps of:

buffering call parameter information generated by a public branch exchange;
buffering, in one or more internal buffers of a switching node, call parameter information
generated by the switching node for calls managed by the switching node;
polling the buffered call parameter information generated by the public branch exchange
and the buffered call parameter information generated by the switching node;
encrypting the polled call parameter information; and
transmitting to a call accounting application service provider network the encrypted call
parameter information via a data network, wherein the call accounting application
service provider network receives, decrypts, and processes the call parameter
information for generating a usage profile.

Claim 25 (new): The method of claim 24, wherein the encrypted call parameter information is transmitted via electronic mail.